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*Smallpox in the United States.*

## ALABAMA.

*Mobile.*—Surgeon Murray reports March 10, 4 new cases of smallpox at Mobile.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

*Washington.*—Health Officer Woodward reports as follows: March 7, new cases, 2; discharges, 4, and 2 houses released from quarantine. March 9, new cases, 8; discharges, 1; suspects, 2. March 11, new cases, 1; discharges, 8; suspects, 1. One house released from quarantine. No new cases to March 15; 8 discharges.

## GEORGIA.

*Savannah.*—Acting Health Officer Joseph G. Jarrell reports March 8 as follows:

I have the honor of making to you the following report of the recent outbreak of variola in this place. The first case was discovered February 22 in the person of H. Baker, Company I, Sixth Immune Regiment, United States Volunteers, which had just arrived here from Porto Rico (Arecibo).

From March 1 to March 8, 5 more cases have been discovered, all of which are traced to a single case, C. Fielding, who contracted the disease at Jackson Junction, Aiken County, S. C., where it appears to be epidemic.

Dr. Foster, United States Marine-Hospital Service, reports to me this morning a case of varioloid in the person of a soldier, B. F. Mathews, private Company G, Sixth Immune Regiment, United States Volunteers, who was exposed to infection while in the ward with H. Baker, the first case reported. All the cases have been removed to the pesthouse, and measures adopted to prevent any further spread of the disease.

Assistant Surgeon Foster reports March 15, 11 cases in the pesthouse. Origin of 2 is the first case, of the others, South Carolina.

## ILLINOIS.

*Chicago.*—Surgeon Sawtelle reports March 10 as follows:

I have the honor to report that a case of smallpox was discovered in this city by the health authorities yesterday morning in the person of a colored man named Nathan Banks, a stranger in the city hailing from Lexington, Ky. The patient was at once placed in the isolation hospital. Banks arrived here the night before, and stopped in a police station over night. All persons exposed at the station and other places visited by the patient were vaccinated.

As a preventive measure, the commissioner of health has provided a thoroughly disinfected ambulance, which is stationed night and day near the city and county buildings for the care and removal of suspects, and the police officers are instructed to take all suspected cases as quickly as possible to this ambulance, where they are detained until the health department takes charge of the cases. Provision is also being made for the isolation of suspects at the police stations, and physicians are engaged every night in vaccinating at the various lodging houses, thus covering the most dangerous portion of the floating population.

Some little time ago I directed the medical officers on duty at the Chicago and South Chicago offices and dispensaries to vaccinate all seamen applying for treatment not protected by recent successful vaccination. Glycerinated vaccine lymph is used exclusively.

## INDIANA.

Dr. J. N. Hunt, secretary of the State board of health, reports to March 1 as follows:

*Clark County.*—Smallpox reported.

*Daviess County.*—Smallpox reported.

*Floyd County.*—Smallpox reported.

*Green County.*—Smallpox reported.

*Jefferson County.*—Smallpox reported.

*Marion County (Indianapolis).*—January 28–March 1, 14 cases.

*Precautions against smallpox at Evansville.*

EVANSVILLE, *March 3, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that 56 river men were vaccinated last month. Twelve were white and the rest colored. The 9 hospital attendants were vaccinated. Navigation was closed during part of the month, but boats are running now. I have mailed 18 letters to masters and owners of vessels coming into this port, and have urged them to advise officers and crew to be vaccinated.

Respectfully, yours,

J. H. OAKLEY,

*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

## KENTUCKY.

*Louisville.*—Assistant Surgeon Russell reports March 10, 216 cases of smallpox sent to the pesthouse since the outbreak, 105 cases still under treatment, and 1 death.

## LOUISIANA.

*New Orleans.*—Passed Assistant Surgeon Nydegger reports March 7, 10 new cases of smallpox, all colored. One case was traceable to the steamer *Spud*, which arrived February 13, the majority come from a section of the city frequented by roustabouts and the roaming element of the colored class. March 13 he reports 68 cases in the isolation hospital and 3 discharges. All cases among negroes; no deaths.

## OHIO.

*Cincinnati.*—Acting Assistant Surgeon Stevenson reports, March 11, 1 new case of smallpox. The patient came from Pittsburg on the steamer *Virginia*, arriving March 8, at which time he, with the rest of the crew, was vaccinated. March 13 he reports another case, which arrived that morning by rail from Memphis, Tenn.

## PENNSYLVANIA.

Dr. Benjamin Lee, secretary of the State board of health, reports, March 11, cases since February 11, as follows:

*Allegheny County*.—Homestead, 1 case; McKees Rocks, 3 cases; O'Hara Township, 1 case.

*Altoona, Blair County*.—One case.

*Six Mile Run, Bedford County*.—One case.

*McConnellsburg, Fulton County*.—One case.

*Saltillo, Huntingdon County*.—Five cases.

*Berwind, Somerset County*.—One case.

## TENNESSEE.

*Memphis*.—Passed Assistant Surgeon Magruder reports March 7, 15 cases of smallpox since March 1. The health department is making strenuous efforts to have all citizens of Memphis, especially negroes, vaccinated, and 10 inspectors are now employed in making house-to-house inspections and vaccinating free of charge.

Dr. Albright, secretary and executive officer of the State board of health, reports March 11, as follows:

*Grover, Madison County*.—February 18–March 11, 12 cases, all colored.

*Hardeman County*.—March 1–11, 1 case, white.

*Jackson, Madison County*.—February 13–March 11, 40 cases, colored.

*Memphis, Shelby County*.—January 30–March 11, 36 cases, 34 colored.

*Pinson, Madison County*.—February 18–March 11, 1 case, colored.

*Union City, Obion County*.—March 3–11, 7 cases, colored.

No deaths in a total of 97 cases. The health authorities are taking all measures to prevent the spread of the disease, including isolation, vaccination, and disinfection.

## TEXAS.

*Bryan*.—Dr. George R. Tabor, county and city health officer, reports, March 11, as follows: January 29–March 10, 24 cases, no deaths. All negroes except 2.

EAGLE PASS, TEX., *March 2, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the 3 cases of smallpox in C. P. Diaz, which I reported to the Bureau by telegram, are now convalescent and that no new cases have originated there.

Three cases of smallpox are now existing in the little Mexican village of Monterey, Tex. I investigated these cases and learned that they came to Monterey, Tex., from a section house about 20 miles from Monterey. Mr. Drake ordered me to investigate the place of origin and I find that a Mexican who had just recovered from smallpox, he having had the disease in Laredo, Tex., stopped at the house of the Mexicans who are now ill and infected them with smallpox, his face still being full of the scabs resulting from the eruption. The county officials have taken the above-mentioned cases in hand and every precaution to prevent the spread of the disease has been taken. With the assistance of the county officials, I am vaccinating all the people in my district along the Rio Grande.

The Rio Grande is continually watched, I having stationed 1 Marine-Hospital Service guard at Upson, Tex., with instructions to watch all the fords and allow no suspicious characters to cross to this

side. The same vigilant and strict quarantine is maintained at Eagle Pass.

I have the honor to remain, respectfully, yours,      LEA HUME,  
*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

EL PASO, TEX., *March 1, 1899.*

SIR: Referring to the existence of smallpox here as formerly reported, I have now to say that the board of health of the city of El Paso has taken effective measures to stamp out the disease. Notwithstanding this, however, an occasional new case is discovered, and is promptly and properly dealt with, so that conditions, so far as El Paso is concerned, are assuming a satisfactory shape.

As to Juarez, Mexico, the city opposite El Paso, Tex., the board of health of that city (Juarez) exists, so to say, on paper only. Very little, if any, effective work is done. Houses having the disease are not quarantined. There is no hospital in the city. Yellow placards are posted warning the people not to enter or leave the premises, but no attention is paid to this. This very morning I saw a man in the market place, mingling freely with the public, who has 5 cases of smallpox in his family. The Mexican character does not take kindly to the restrictive work of sanitation.

While making a recent house-to-house visitation in Juarez I found a number of houses where there had been smallpox. There were still a number of children and grown persons who had not been vaccinated. I vaccinated all such on the spot.

At the suggestion of Passed Assistant Surgeon Cobb, on his late visit of inspection to this place, a quasi quarantine or system of certificates was established, which required of all persons coming from Mexico a certificate of vaccination. (Copy of certificate is herewith attached.) Since February 8, the date on which this system was established, I have issued 3,000 of these certificates. The State quarantine officer and the city health officer have each issued 1,000 of the same certificates. I am every day from 10 a. m. to 6 p. m. at the custom-house guardhouse, people coming from Mexico taking only this road, and examine every one without exception for successful vaccination, returning Mexicans not being vaccinated back to Juarez, and Americans back to El Paso, Tex., to be vaccinated, and inform them that they will be permitted to pass as soon as I find that such as need it are successfully vaccinated.

Refused certificates since February 8, 1899, to February 28, 1899, 561 grown persons and children, of which 154, mostly Mexicans, were living at El Paso, and 407 were Mexicans from Juarez and the interior of Mexico.

My observation, and that of the customs inspectors, who have had like opportunity of judging the effects and results of this system, is highly gratifying and satisfactory. There can be no doubt that it is having an excellent effect in ways almost too numerous to mention, and shall continue it until we effect the entire suppression of smallpox in this locality, and until every person from Juarez desiring to visit El Paso is successfully vaccinated.

The situation and the outlook are very much improved and encouraging. There can be no peddling of smallpox now, as no communication is allowed except by those who are willing to pay and have paid the proper regard to the sanitary law as regards vaccination. Hundreds of Mexicans, rather than to be vaccinated, have turned their back to El Paso and have returned to Juarez. Hereafter bull fights, chicken fights, and other exhibitions in Juarez, sustained very largely by American

patronage from this side of the river, can not succeed until and unless the requirements of vaccination have been complied with, and this will be a powerful factor in the case, as it will touch, and not lightly, the pocketbooks of the business community of Juarez, as well as the pleasure-loving and sporting people of El Paso.

Many, very many, young Mexican clerks in the different commercial houses at Juarez, who always passed to and fro from Juarez to El Paso on errands, came without ever having been vaccinated. All such are refused admittance until successfully vaccinated, and a vast majority of them return in time and prove that they have complied with what is required of them—successful vaccination.

There were 2 cases of smallpox in an isolated family living some 6 miles from Juarez. About six weeks after his children were absolutely well, the father of the family had some dealings with another man about 4 miles from his home. This family had two unprotected children, and in about fifteen days afterwards the children became sick with smallpox, the germs no doubt having been brought to the home by the man living 4 miles from the place. This I know to be a fact, because I attended both families.

We had smallpox before the soldiers fought the glorious battles in Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippines. Smallpox will not be eradicated from the United States until Mexico institutes a rigorous system of vaccination.

I ascribe the present situation of smallpox in the United States to two facts, namely: Some fifty years ago vaccination was almost universal amongst all people here—they were protected and smallpox became almost extinct—the younger generation believing that protection being *ipso facto*, there was no vaccination necessary, hence the outbreak of smallpox almost everywhere. Thousands of excursionists from all parts of the United States came into Mexico, through the inducement of very low railroad rates. These people not only visit the different numerous churches, etc., but generally go around in the huts of the lowest of the low, no doubt very often visit houses where cases of smallpox exist, and carry the germs in their clothing to Maine and Oregon, endangering the unprotected at such places.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

E. ALEXANDER,  
*Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.*

*Galveston.*—Temporary Acting Assistant Surgeon Kuller reports, March 14, 1 case in a negro who had not been out of the city for several months.

#### VIRGINIA.

*Alexandria.*—Sanitary Inspector Snowden reports as follows: March 9, new cases, 2, suspects, 1; March 10, new cases, 1; March 11, new cases, 2; March 12, new cases, 0; March 12–14, no cases; March 15, new cases, 4.

*Norfolk.*—Passed Assistant Surgeon Smith reports March 8, new cases, 2, discharges, 7; March 9, new cases, 6, discharges, 0; March 10, new cases, 10, discharges, 10.

The health officer estimates the total number of cases from September 19, 1898, to March 7, 1899, as follows: Cases received from Norfolk city, 476; cases received from country outside city, 20; deaths, 9; March 11, new cases, 2, discharges, 8; March 12, new cases, 6, discharges, 6; March 13, new cases, 6, discharges, 5; March 14, new cases, 4, discharges, 10.

NORFOLK, VA., *March 6, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a notice of action taken by the Norfolk board of health, affecting a partial quarantine against the towns of Hampton, Newport News, and Suffolk on account of smallpox.

Respectfully, yours,

A. C. SMITH,  
*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

[Inclosure.]

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH,  
*Norfolk, Va., March 2, 1899.*

All railroads and steamboat lines plying between Norfolk and Hampton, Newport News, and Suffolk, are hereby notified that no person shall be allowed to pass to or from Norfolk to Hampton, Newport News, or Suffolk unless such person furnishes satisfactory evidence of successful vaccination or be vaccinated.

By order of

BOARD OF HEALTH.

*Portsmouth.*—Quarantine Officer Hope reports for the week ended March 11, 25 new cases, all colored.

*Smallpox in the United States as reported to the Supervising Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service, December 31, 1898, to March 17, 1899.*

Places.	Date.	Cases.	Deaths.	Remarks.
<b>Alabama:</b>				
Antauga County.....	Feb. 24.....			Smallpox reported.
Calvert.....	Dec. 10-Jan. 20.....	10		
Catherina.....	Jan. 6.....			Do.
Clarke County.....	Dec. 25-Jan. 20.....		2	Several cases.
Clay County.....	Jan. 27.....			Smallpox reported.
Collerine.....	Jan. 6.....	1		
Dallas County.....	Jan. 27.....			Do.
Green County.....	.....do.....			Do.
Hale County.....	.....do.....			Do.
Lowndes County.....	.....do.....			Do.
Marengo County.....	.....do.....			Do.
Mobile.....	Jan. 2-Mar. 10.....	18		
Montgomery County.....	Feb. 24.....			Do.
Randolph County.....	Jan. 27.....			Do.
Southside.....	Jan. 6.....	96		
Washington County.....	Jan. 27.....			Do.
Wilcox County.....	.....do.....			Do.
<b>Arkansas:</b>				
Pulaski County.....	Jan. 27-Mar. 1.....	8	1	
<b>California:</b>				
Los Angeles.....	Sept.-Mar. 4.....	63	12	
Sacramento City.....	.....do.....	1		
San Diego.....	Feb. 19.....	1	1	
San Francisco.....	Jan. 31.....	2		
<b>Colorado:</b>				
Arapahoe County.....	Dec. 1-Feb. 8.....	23	2	
El Paso County.....	Jan. 31.....	2		
Fremont County.....	Dec. 1-Jan. 31.....	24		
Los Animas County.....	Jan. 31.....	12		
Pueblo County.....	Dec. 17-Jan. 31.....	60	4	
<b>Connecticut:</b>				
New Haven.....	Jan. 16.....	2		
<b>District of Columbia:</b>				
Washington.....	Jan. 21-Mar. 15....	50		
<b>Florida:</b>				
Jacksonville.....	Feb. 12-Feb. 25....	3		
Key West.....	Feb. 25-Mar. 12....	4		
Pensacola.....	Jan. 14.....	1		
<b>Georgia:</b>				
Jones County.....	Jan. 1-Jan. 16.....	300		
Savannah.....	Feb. 22-Mar. 15....	11		
<b>Illinois:</b>				
Bethel.....	Jan. 7.....	2		
Biggsville, Henderson Co.....	Mar. 7.....	1		
Cairo.....	Feb. 23-Mar. 7.....	26		
Chicago.....	Mar. 10.....	1		
Dana, La Salle County.....	Mar. 7.....	1		
Media.....	Jan. 7.....	1		
Monmouth, Warren County..	Feb. 23.....	4		
Murphysboro, Jackson Co....	Mar. 7.....	2		